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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG, 31st August 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1888.

Now that inquiry has been made into the recent attempt at escape made by a section of the chain-gang employed on the Government works at West Point and the whole of the circumstances laid before the public, we can without prejudice to the interests of any person concerned deal briefly with the salient features of what, in the light of past experiences, must be regarded not only as an extraordinary occurrence but also as a most creditable exposure of the inefficiency of our convict system. We do not propose discussing whether convict labour on public works is justified or otherwise; the authorities have for the time being decided that this is the best direction in which the services of prisoners sentenced to a long term can be usefully employed, and we do not see our way to raise any objection. But when the authorities saw fit to re-introduce the chain-gang, they also incurred an obligation to the community—they undertook—to properly guard the convicts when at work and to preserve the public peace. How efficiently they have carried out this obligation was clearly shown by Major-General Gordon, Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, in the evidence he gave before the Coroner on Saturday. According to this officer there have been no fewer than five escapes from the chain-gang since December 1887, and yet, for reasons which are not easily understood, instead of taking a wrinkle from the convicts and profiting by experience, the Gaol authorities, or the police, or the Government, or whoever is supposed to be responsible, calmly continued the old regulations, which had been so practically tested and found so thoroughly imperfect and inefficient. Surely this latest attempt of desperate men to regain their liberty, again showing up the utter uselessness of the existing system and ending with such tragic results, will prove "the last straw!"

We cannot pretend to know who is directly responsible for the frightfully disorganised state of the gaol guards when the dozen Chinese convicts made that bold dash for liberty. Instead of any concerted plan of action, which would inevitably have nipped the rising in the bud, the turnkeys and their assistants would appear to have commenced indiscriminately blazing away with rifles and revolvers at the fugitives without making the least effort for their re-capture. And a splendid exhibition these trained (?) warders made of themselves. The junk which the convicts took possession of was only a few yards from the shore, and the prisoners were plainly visible trying to hoist the sail, yet, although hundreds of rounds are said to have been fired, only one or two bullets took effect, and it is positively certain that but for the timely advent of Inspector STANTON and the Aberdeen ferry launch the Chinese desperadoes would have escaped. And when we read that revolvers would not fire, and that one of the guards kept pulling away at his rifle when it was a half-cock and could not account for its mysteriously refusing to go off, the only conclusion that can be arrived at is that nothing but gross neglect and mismanagement could allow such a state of affairs to exist.

The Coroner's inquiry into this sad business should be supplemented by a searching investigation into the defective conditions of the convict system now so prominently made public. There has been the usual rabid outcry, in which our local contemporaries have joined like yelping curs, for scapegoats, and pointed indications of an unmistakable character have been freely indulged in. We are unable to gather from what transpired in the Coroner's court where the direct responsibility actually rests, and it is on this account that we suggest the necessity for

an independent inquiry going far beyond the scope of the Coroner's Inquest. No doubt the Superintendent of the Gaol has already specially reported on the subject to the Governor, and it is quite likely that his explanation, so far as his own personal liability is concerned, is satisfactory enough; but the matter should not end there. Such grave defects as have been shown to exist when a slight crisis arises, both in the efficiency of the convict system and the discipline of the gaol officials, should not lightly be passed over, and especially when, as in the instance now under review, there has been serious loss of life and such a shock to the confidence of the community directly attributable to these inexcusable shortcomings.

TELEGRAMS.

(From Straits Times.)
THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM.
WASHINGTON, September 12th.
General Harrison has issued a manifesto promising to revise and modify the Tariff restricting foreign labour, and to oppose the admission of Chinese immigrants into the country. The manifesto also expresses confidence that a firm and dignified diplomacy would result in a prompt and peaceful solution of the Canadian Fisheries question.

THE TRANSVAAL.
DURBAN, September 13th.
Latest advices state that Dinizulu has surrendered.
BOULANGER.
PARIS, September 14th.
It is reported that General Boulanger is travelling for pleasure.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE gunboats *Merlin* and *Esprit* left this morning for a cruise.

SENH. R. J. DA SILVA, Chief Justice of Macao, came across this forenoon by the river steamer *Kiukiang*.

The old flagship *Audacious* left Singapore for Plymouth, and Batavia and the Seychelles, on the 12th inst.

THE P. & O. Company's steamer *Ventura*, from Bombay, left Singapore on the 22nd inst., at 5 p.m. for this port.

THE U. S. Corvette *Funita* flew the usual home pennant from her mainmast to-day, in token of an early departure for the United States.

AN Emergency meeting of Perseverance Lodge, No. 1165, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Saturday, the 29th inst., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

TO-DAY at the Police Court, before Mr. Pollock, a married woman named Min Achee, was charged by P.C. McDonald with indecently bathing in a stream near a public road on the 23rd inst. at 5.30 p.m. Complainant said the stream was called the Nullah, near Kennedy Road, and the accused was not more than 30 yards away and was decidedly in an indecent condition as regards clothing, having only the upper part of her body covered. The charge being proved the defaulting bather was ordered to "ant-up" one Mexican or to take a week in retirement. The fine was paid with a rueful countenance.

SAYS the *Straits Times*.—Opium, on which the financial prosperity of the colony rests bears steadily up against the fiscal strain. The retelling of the farm has yielded the handsome increase of about 30 per cent. over the return for the previous three years. The revenue of the Colony need excite no apprehension, or the score of elasticity. It does advance by leaps and bounds to the accumulation of surplus, which has to be disposed of abroad by investment, as provision for the rainy day. Commendable as prudence and forethought of this kind cannot fail to be, they run beyond due bounds when put in practice against the Monticapital of this Settlement. It would be no hardship on the Government to take up the debenture stock of the Board at 4 per cent, instead of demanding 5 per cent. The flourishing state of the finances admits of greater liberality in the interests of the public.

AT the Police Court to-day Mr. Wodehouse sentenced a seaman of the steamship *Guthrie*, named Eusin, a native of Bangkok, to six months imprisonment with hard labour, for stabbing a shipmate in the neck, who had asked him to repay a debt of three or four dollars. A Chinese seaman was also fined \$250 for being found in possession of 60 taels of prepared opium without a certificate from the Opium Farmer. The complainant, an Excise officer named Chung Ming, said that on the 22nd instant he and the *On Tait* passage boat coming from bounds when put in practice against the Monticapital of this Settlement. It would be no hardship on the Government to take up the debenture stock of the Board at 4 per cent, instead of demanding 5 per cent. The flourishing state of the finances admits of greater liberality in the interests of the public.

ANOTHER of "Brownie's" rarebits.—That legal-minded people may prate about Police Officers exceeding their duty, but sometimes the end justifies the means, and smashing in the end of the latter end of the pirated coal-junk may be cited as an instance. The meaning of this oracular sentence can be guessed by those who read and run. "Brownie" declares Inspector Stanton's action in trying to disable the convict-laden junk which was making for Cap-ling-moon to have been illegal! If such is the case, if the standard of legality raised on high by this journalistic "Turnip-top" is the true one, then all our convicts may escape with perfect impunity not a shot need be fired at them even if they pelt the Police with pieces of coal, or murder one of their captors by striking him on the head while struggling in the water. If Inspector Stanton's action in disabling the junk was illegal, we unconditionally side with that illegality and hope our illegal friend will have ample opportunities to distinguish himself in a like capacity. "Brownie" had better devote his talents to something more refreshing than lecturing the Colony on legalities about which he knows nothing.

MR. A. MITCHELL, a Singapore broker, was committed for trial at the criminal sessions of the Supreme Court by Mr. Anthonisz, police Magistrate, on the 5th inst., on a charge of cheating a Mrs. Hownan out of \$3,500. The trial will not take place until the middle of November, and the accused will remain in prison until that time.

THUS a Japanese native paper—*Sapporo Beer*—enjoyed at one time an excellent reputation in Tokyo, and appeared likely to drive imported beer out of the market, but afterwards bad management caused the article to lose favour. In order to recover the trade, a skilled German brewer is to be employed, and as Hokkaido is well known to be adapted for growing the best kinds of barley, we have no doubt fine beer will again be produced.

We are glad to learn, says the *Bangkok Times*, that the new manager of the Siam Forest Company, limited, Mr. McIver, is determined to cut the Gordian knot and make a practical attempt to do something in the interests of his employees. This gentleman, who seems to work on a broad business basis, has recently paid Rs. 20,000 for thirteen Chingmai elephants. With these—and plain common sense—he yet hopes to get some timber out of the forests and down to Bangkok.

HELLO! some one gets the *China Mail* in far-off Hawaii. We knew that paper would go and do it. Now then Hongkong ships, passengers, mails, and females are to be quarantined for 21 days because we have cholera here! King Makakamutui, we haven't heard of any around here except in Macao, since July, 'pon honour. Well, please your Majesty's self, but we know you would come of that mission "y organs' Revelations."

ON Saturday last Police Constable Graham shot a full grown civet-cat over in British Kowloon. The animal was discovered sporting and occasionally addressing itself to the business of catching sparrows in the branches of a banyan tree not far from the place where its twin sister was shot a few weeks back. It measured about thirty-seven inches from the point of its sharp fox-like nose to the tip of the bushy tail, and thus was hardly as fine a specimen as the last, which was a "valuable specimen" in the City Hall Museum.

THE shooting for the Hongkong Rifle Association's Monthly (Handicap) Challenge Cup took place at Kowloon on Saturday, and after a very close finish Mr. C. D. Wilkinson carried off the trophy with a total score at the two ranges (two and five hundred yards) of 65, including 7 points handicap allowance. Mr. Wilkinson scored 30 and 28 respectively. Police constable Robertson, allowed 4, was a good second with 63. Mr. John Andrew, 8 points start, taking third place with the same total. The veteran Mr. E. L. Woodin was scarcely up to his best form at the shorter range only getting on the "bull" once in a total of 28, but at the 500 yards, after starting with an outer, he found the disc six times running and totted up 32—a very good performance. With two or three exceptions the all round shooting was more than creditable.

AT the Police Court this morning, before Mr. Wodehouse, a coolie named Au Ping, 27, and a cook named Sha Kam Hi, 22, were charged on remand with "highway robbery" at British Kowloon on the 7th inst. The complainant Sam Li Shang said he was a trader doing business between Tai Pung, a city in Kwangtung province, and Hongkong. On the 6th inst. he had sold some ground nuts in Hongkong for 26 taels, and early on the following morning he left town for home. With a companion he left Yau-mai-li about 6 a.m. bound for Tai Pung, and on getting to a place called Tai-shok-kok, which is in British territory, and where there is a tea shed, the two travellers saw the first defendant come out and join the second, who had followed them from Yau-mai-li. On getting about one hundred yards further along the road, they saw two men approaching from ahead, and when they had come up to within three or four yards of the complainants, somebody called "begin," and the two strangers rushed on the travellers and seized them. The first prisoner got hold of the companion, and the second addressed himself to witness by seizing him from behind, and a tremendous struggle took place, during which a bag witness carried on his shoulder, containing his money and some clothing, was taken by the assistants. His purse, containing \$1.10, was also taken, after which the two men were taken on to the top of a hill, their hands tied behind their backs, their feet lashed together and gag put into their mouths. They were then laid near the road and left to ponder over their misfortune. Soon afterwards an old man, who happened to be passing, untied their lashings, when they walked back to Yau-mai-li and gave information to the police. The prisoners were committed for trial at the Supreme Court.

THE Macao Municipal election, in pursuance of the decree recently issued by Governor da Costa after dissolving for the second time the *Leal Senado*, took place yesterday, and resulted, as was confidently anticipated, in a complete triumph for the members of the twice dissolved Corporation. Most of the public functionaries and military men were again conspicuous by their absence from the election, Governor da Costa's late injunction to abstain from voting still acting as a sufficient deterrent on the unfortunate official subordinates and hangers-on. The following was the result of the ballot:—D. C. Pacheco, the ex-President, 146 votes; Cancio Jorge, 145 votes; A. G. da Fonseca, 145; J. Ribeiro, 145; P. V. Sanchez, 145; A. Silva Leite, 139. A few other impossible votes were wasted on several individuals, the Governor himself scoring one. It may safely be said that the members of the extinct Municipality were re-elected unanimously, and that once more the electors of Macao have plainly and severely given Senator da Costa to understand that they will not submit to his autocratic system of government, any more than they will barter their free votes for a transient governmental smile of friendship or protection. A pamphlet was circulated in Macao on Saturday last dealing with the Municipal question. It is entitled "An analysis of the Report made by the Commission appointed to inquire into the affairs of the Municipality Chamber dissolved by decree No. 10 of the 4th August 1888." By Domingos C. Pacheco and his colleagues of the extinct Corporation. The defence of the *Senado* is complete, and it is a crushing blow to Governor da Costa and his myrmidons. The *Correio da Manhã* of the 21st inst. publishes a long and energetic manifesto of adhesion from the Portuguese residents of Shanghai to Senator Pacheco and his colleagues. It is signed by 131 residents of the Model Settlement, and is substantially similar to the address sent by the Portuguese community of this colony to the members of the *Leal Senado* last July.

GENERAL and the *Malacca* arrived yesterday by the P. and O. steamer *Malacca*, from Yokohama.

THE returns of the number of visitors to the City Hall-Museum for the week ending 23rd September, are:—European, 125, Chinese, 1,695; total 1,820.

SAYS the *Hogo News*.—The termination of the connection of Messrs. Gowlan and MacLagan with the Imperial Japanese Mint, following as it does so closely upon the cessation of the practice of sending yix coins, &c., for assay to the Mints at Washington and London, is not calculated to reassure foreigners respecting the future operations of the establishment at Osaka. The result is doubtless of no moment to the Government at present, but it certainly will be if they are still desirous of having the silver they accepted abroad immediately and without suspicion. In course of time confidence may, perhaps, be established in a coinage conducted entirely without impartial supervision, but in the interval the Chinese shroffs may be expected to take full advantage of opportunities afforded them by a discredited currency.

AT the magistracy this morning the Justices of the Peace met in solemn conclave to consider the question of granting a public licence to Mr. G. C. L. Rouch for the construction of a matched refreshment room on Robinson Road, British Kowloon. There were present—Messrs. H. E. Wodehouse (chairman), J. B. Coughtrie, J. V. V. Vernon, Wei Yuk and A. Seth. The police objection to Mr. Rouch's application, which was originally put in, being withdrawn the license was granted *nem. con.* Another question for consideration was the application of Mr. C. F. W. Petersen of the German Tavern, Queen's Road West, for permission to shift his quarters to a new two-story house further east, until his present house has been rebuilt and refitted, owing to the damage caused during the extensive fire of last winter. The request was granted without opposition.

ALTHOUGH Singapore would appear to be far better adapted for a tramway system than Hongkong, the cars in the first named colony have so far proved anything but a financial success. The experience of the Singapore Tramway Company should not be lost sight of by those who are madly clamouring for a low level tram system in Hongkong. No doubt after the Praya reclamations have been carried out a line will run along the entire length of the new land, but even under the most favorable circumstances the question is debated whether it will prove a paying investment. The tramway, as we pointed out when discussing this question years ago, is a popular, speedy and economical mode of conveyance, and will not easily be "knocked out." Referring to the Singapore trams the *Straits Times* observes:—Judging from the Tramway Company's report for the first half of the year, it can only just succeed in making both ends meet. The profit of five thousand dollars for that period had to be written off on account of depreciation. The number of passengers carried, but has undoubtedly lost heavily against its large increase. These handy vehicles must indeed have run the cars hard, to call for doubling the line in order to keep the concern going. The tramway has proved such a useful adjunct to the traffic facilities of the town, that its abandonment would be a public misfortune. The shareholders will find doubling the line to be only one improvement out of many. The management needs to be kept more fully alive to the public requirements, and more attentive to the wants of that section of the community whose patronage they depend for success.

THE report, which on enquiry was found to be almost groundless, that the police authorities have seized all the copies of Zola's "La Terre" which were offered and advertised for sale in the Colony, does not take us by surprise. Home papers received by last mail give an account of the prosecution instituted by the metropolitan police against Messrs. Vitzel for selling English translations of one of the latest of Zola's realistic novels. If the book is reputed obscene and demoralising in London, it follows as a matter of course that it must be considered so in the Colonies, and particularly so in Crown Colonies. The same laws regulating publications and repressing the abuses of the press obtain here as are in force at home. Lately a movement was also set on foot by our Legislature to extend copyright privileges and laws to the press, and was measure, by the bye to protect literary property from colonial plagiarists and other genera of literary predators who may be found flourishing in the Colonies with more impunity than they do at home. As to obscene literature, strong repressive and penal laws are in force in every civilised part of the world; and the stronger they are the better; for it is a recognised fact that civilisation must be intolerant of all attempts at demoralising the masses. Obscene literature is one of the most demoralising elements conceivable; and as such it deserves prompt and radical suppression. But the question of the charge of obscenity preferred against Zola's "La Terre" in a review of the work we published last year when the first copies in the French language were imported in to the Colony we said that although the book abounded with obscene passages, these were not of the erotic kind; they did not aim, like *La Dame de Sappho*, the "Memoirs of Cora Pearl," or the thousand and one other publications of the same stamp, at stimulating the prurient to vice, but their special object was to paint realities in order to show the cause and self-consequence. 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safe-guard a most important undertaking. The whole affair, so far as can be learnt at present, appears to be an outrageous disgrace to the Colony and as clear an evidence as was ever produced of the sheer incompetence of that authority who is at the head of, and who has attempted to plan this system of utilizing convict labour. Let us hope we shall have some better guidance at the helm in that time so long foretold when drilled and well organized fellows are knocking at the gates of the harbour, and who will possibly make their presence felt much more effectually than the wretched and feeble minded and retreating coolies at whose simple escape certain officers of the Colony have been found a fourth or fifth time, within a few months, wanting in ordinary resources.

Your's very truly,
NEMESIS.

Hongkong, September 22nd, 1888.

JAPAN IN SEARCH OF AN ETHIC.

(Translated by Hyogo News from the Shinonome Shimbun.)

Much has lately been said and written in some of the foreign newspapers published in this country about Japan being in search of an Ethic. The assertion is not supported by fact, as the Japanese people have too much good sense to do anything of the sort. To run looking for an Ethic would be like a child going in pursuit of a butterfly.

It is well known to the people of this country that great discords and varieties of opinion exist upon religious subjects even in the most advanced and intelligent communities of America and Europe. Hence it would be an extremely difficult task, even if we desired to do so, to select out of that chaos a system of ethics upon which to confer the title of the true religion. It is our humble opinion that those who have sought so much to say about Japan in search of an Ethic have some pet scheme of their own they would like to introduce for some reason or other, and to them we offer our thanks for their good intentions, and at the same time advise them to permit the Japanese people to develop an Ethic or religion of their own if they desire a different system from what now prevails. They can safely be entrusted with the task.

We also call the attention of those zealous writers to what it appears they have overlooked, viz., that a religious system cannot, after an existence of many centuries, be cast aside like an old garment, and a new one adopted at a moment's notice. It has often been observed that a performance of this kind invariably results badly.

It is true, no doubt, that all nations stand in need of mental advancement, and we submit as unanswerable that the people of Japan, with their temperate habits, their industry, their tolerance, and their affection for each other, occupy a position equal to that of any other country for mental development. Consequently our liberal school system and admirable scholastic institutions of a higher grade may be depended upon to produce the desired advancement of the mind and physical peace and happiness are disturbed and suffer, because nature of which man is the highest product, the highest essence, is all sympathy. Through such study and in such direction the national Ethic or religion will be improved and purified. Religion never civilised a people, it is the people who civilise religion.

In course of time Japan will, with good results, send missionaries to the bigoted districts of Rome, London, and New York.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

The Korean *Changé d'Affaires* has been ordered by his Government to prepare a statement as to Japanese taxation.

The Hawaii Minister will leave about the beginning of next month for Hawaii on business connected with Japanese emigration to the islands.

The *Iwaki Kan* sustained damage only to her upper works in the collision with the *Yunyata* at Jinsen on the 13th ultimo. The *Awaki Kan*, however, has arrived at Jinsen, and the *Iwaki Kan* will in consequence leave for Nagasaki, where she will be repaired.

Messrs. Yanagiya, a commissioner, and Narushima, an assistant commissioner to the International Exhibition to be opened next year in Paris, will leave the capital on the morning of the 16th instant for Yokohama, whence they propose to start for France in the French steamer *Ava*.

A telegram from Osaka, dated the 3rd instant, states that 1,800 houses were destroyed and over 300 houses were partially damaged in Osaka by the heavy rains of the 31st ultimo, while 10 persons were killed and 60 persons received more or less severe injuries. Considerable damage is reported to have been done to the crops of rice and cotton.

Vice-Admiral Viscount Mudgeguchi, Superintendent of the Yokosuka Admiralty Office, has submitted a memorial to the Minister of State for the Navy suggesting the advisability of stationing a naval force in Hokkaido. The memorial will be considered at a meeting of the Admiralty Council after the return of Count Saigo from Korea and Vladivostok.

It is stated that owing to the increase of traffic in the Inland Sea, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has ordered from England two new steamers to be named the *Musashi Maru* and *Sendai Maru*, in addition to the *Kobe Maru* which is now in course of construction there. The *Musashi Maru* and *Sendai Maru* will be of 2,500 and 1,500 tons respectively, and both are expected to arrive at Yokohama about March or April next.

Portraits of officials who occupied the office of Governor of Tokyo since the Restoration of 1868, which were ordered some time ago from Mr. Asakura Ryōichi, an oil painter of Sanjikanbon, Kyōto, to be hung in the Governor's Chamber in the City Office, have been completed, and were sent to the City Office on the 18th instant. The portraits are those of the late Mr. Karasumaru Mitunori, Viscount Mibu Motono (now senator), Count Okuma (now President of the Diet), Mr. Okuma (late Mr. Kusumoto, late Viscount), Mr. Yoshikawa Akimasa (now Vice-Minister of State), Mr. Homma (President of the Imperial University), and Baron Takasaka (present holder of the office).

THE STRAITS INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the Report for presentation to the Shareholders at the Eleventh Ordinary General Meeting, to be held in the Company's Offices, Singapore, on Saturday, the 29th September, 1888, at 11.45 a.m. precisely:—

To the Shareholders of the Straits Insurance Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—Your Directors beg to place before you the annexed Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st June, 1888.

The net Premium earned after deducting Reinsurance and Returns, amounts to \$201,126.28.

The Interest accrued to \$22,733.61.

1887.—After paying a bonus of 5% to contributors and placing \$10,000 to Reserve, there remained a balance of \$82,170, which has since been reduced by Losses and Claims to \$5,560.83; as far as can be judged at present, this amount, in addition to recoveries, will be sufficient to meet all further claims.

1888.—After payment of an interim dividend to shareholders of 5 per cent. on 30th June, the Working Account shows a balance of \$113,530.73; which amount is carried forward.

London Agency.—Your Directors have decided on carrying on the whole of the Company's business at their new offices, 25, Cornhill (opposite the Royal Exchange) from 1st September, under the management of Mr. Thomas Holroyd Robinson, who has been the Company's underwriter in London since the formation of the Company, and who has now been appointed Special Agent, in the place of Messrs. Scott & Co.; Mr. Robinson will be assisted by a local Committee.

Directors.—The Hon. C. W. Connington and Mr. Meyer Behr, having resigned their seats at the Board, Messrs. Wm. McKerron and G. W. F. Playfair were invited to take their places.

TH. SOHST (Chairman), Directors.
T. S. THOMSON,
Singapore, 1st September, 1888.

NAGASAKI.

The new Medical College it has been decided to establish here, we learn, to be erected on a suitable site in the Ourakami district.

H.I.J.M.'s cruiser *Takachō-kan* left on the 11th inst., for Chemulpo via Fusan, to join Admiral Ito's fleet, where she is to replace the *Fuso-kan* as flag-ship.

The American ship *Rapahel* arrived from Yokohama on Thursday last (Sept. 13th) with 600 tons of her original cargo of Cardiff coal on board, for the British Naval Dock Dept.

A telegram dated Kumamoto the 10th inst. (6 p.m.) announces the total loss of the coasting steamer *Harima Maru*, at the entrance of Misumi harbour. No lives were lost.

The British barque *Rothemay*, having discharged her cargo of kerosene oil, is now loading a full cargo of Mike coal for San Francisco. This is the first cargo of coal that has been shipped from Nagasaki to San Francisco.

The sale and introduction of the *Sekisai-kan*, a Japanese newspaper published at San Francisco, by Japanese, has been prohibited by the Minister of Home Affairs, as likely to disturb the national peace.

A marine Court was held at the Nagasaki Marine Office, to investigate into the circumstances attending the stranding of the coasting steamer *Meishin Maru*, on a reef off Kaware on the 10th July, whilst on a voyage from Higo to this port, and the Court found the master to blame for failing to take proper precautions during a thick fog. His certificate was consequently suspended for three months.

Mr. Selck chief officer of the Mitsui Bishi Co. steamship *Kyūto*, has been promoted to Captain, in place of Capt. Trent, who will leave shortly for England, to bring out a large new collier for the Co.'s Hongkong trade, which was recently purchased on the stocks. The new vessel is to be named the *Asagao* (Morning Glory, or Convolutus), and will be of about 3,700 tons carrying capacity. She is, we believe, expected to arrive here about March next.—*Rising Sun*.

To-day's Advertisements.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

THE following communication has been received from the CONSUL GENERAL for HAWAII in this Colony:—

"COPY OF RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH, HONOLULU, ON THE 6TH AUGUST, 1888."

"Whereas Cholera is now prevalent in Hongkong, China, be it Resolved that the said Port is hereby declared to be an infected port, and all Vessels, their Passengers, Crew, Cargo, and all Mail matter arriving from the said port, at any port in this Kingdom, shall be subject to a quarantine of not less than twenty-one days."

By Command,
FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [915]

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

THE Ground will be open for practice and Lawn Tennis on SATURDAY NEXT, the 29th instant.

Gentlemen desirous of proposing New Members will find Lists for that purpose in the HONGKONG CLUB and CRICKET CLUB PAVILION.

The opening Match FIRST TWELVE v. ALL COMERS will be played on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the 5th and 6th October. Intending players will please sign their names on the lists which are also lying in the Hongkong Club and Cricket Club Pavilion.

ARTHUR K. TRAVERS,
Hon. Sec.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [946]

STEAM TO STRAITS, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship "THIBET" will leave for the above places on SATURDAY, the 29th instant, at Noon.

E. L. WOODIN,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [943]

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG.

No. 1105.

A N EMERGENCY MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on SATURDAY, the 29th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely.

Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [948]

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR PENANG AND SINGAPORE. THE Steamship

"TETARTOS,"
Captain Paterson, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 1st October, at 4 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
AH YON & Co.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [944]

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "ABERDEEN,"
FROM SAN FRANCISCO, VANCOUVER, YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND KUTCHINOTZU.

THE above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Counter-signature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo including the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents,
Hongkong, 23rd September, 1888. [36]

THE FUNJON AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, (LIMITED).

NOTICE.

LETTERS of 20th, 24th, and 25th August, 1888 have been received from the MINES, and are open to perusal of Shareholders between the hours of 10 A.M. and 1 P.M. at the Company's Office, No. 9, Queen's Road Central.

A. O'D. GOURDIN,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 24th September, 1888. [947]

Intimations.

LAUDATORY NOTICE.

POLICE SERGEANT BUTLIN, who has been in charge of the Stanley Police Station for a period of twenty-two months, is about to be transferred to Hongkong. The undersigned, who has been resident in Stanley for many years and who represents the opinions of the other Chinese residents of the village, desires to bear public testimony to the most efficient manner in which Mr. BUTLIN has discharged his duties during his term of service. By his courage and energy, by two separate occasions, distinguished himself by capturing pirates, and has effectively put a stop to their depredations. The village is now quite tranquil, and Mr. BUTLIN has always been on good terms with the residents and is deservedly popular; his transfer to Hongkong is generally regretted, and will be a great loss to Stanley.

CHAN FU,
Stanley, 22nd September, 1888. [941]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS are requested to send in a Statement of Business Contributed during the half-year ended 30th June, 1888, on or before the 30th instant, on which date the Accounts will be CLOSED.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
D. GILLIES,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [872]

THE STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Steam Dispatch Launch "BONNIE," is now lying off Pedder's Wharf for Hire.

For terms apply to
THE COMPANY'S OFFICE,
1, Pedder's Street,
Hongkong, 12th September, 1888. [899]

FOR HIRE.

THE Fast Steam Launch "ELK" is always kept under steam off Pedder's Wharf and is at the service of the public for proceeding to and from Steamers, Picnic and Bathing Parties, etc.

For particulars, apply to
CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 17th August, 1888. [801]

HONGKONG HOTEL.

THE HOTEL is prepared to SUPPLY Picnic and Shooting Parties with all requirements. The Hotel Launch is Available for HIRE when not required for Hotel purposes.

Apply to
C. M. ROBERT,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th September, 1888. [915]

A. G. GORDON & CO.

ENGINEERS, LAUNCH BUILDERS, GENERAL AND GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS, IRONMONGERS, COMMISSION AGENTS, VALUATORS, IRON and TIMBER MERCHANTS.

WORKS:
BOWRINGTON, EAST POINT.

OFFICE:
CORNER OF PEDDER STREET AND PRAYA.

STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.
Hongkong, 3rd September, 1888. [41]

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.,
CHRONOMETER, WATCH, AND CLOCK-MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER-SMITHS, AND OPTICIANS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.
Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches; awarded the highest Prizes at every Exhibition; and for Voigtlander and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES, MARINE GLASSES, AND SPYGLASSES.
No. 8, Queen's Road Central. [607]

NOW READY.

THE PRAYA RECLAMATION SCHEME.

A FULL ACCOUNT of the proceedings in connection with this gigantic undertaking, reprinted from the *Hongkong Telegraph*. With plan of the city of Victoria, showing the intended Reclamation.

PRICE: ONE DOLLAR.
to be obtained at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Ltd.; Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.'s; and Mr. W. B. BARNES.

Hongkong, 12th July, 1888.

Intimations.

NOTIFICATION.

THE Drill Season of the HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS 1888-9 will commence on the 1st proximo.

II.
Surgeon CANTLIE will attend at Headquarters EVERY FRIDAY EVENING at 6 O'CLOCK when gentlemen desirous of joining can be enrolled, if found fit.

III.
It will be greatly to the advantage of new members joining as early in the month as possible; by doing so they can attend sufficient drills to enable them to pass inspection in marching and carbine exercises on or about the 30th October. This applies also to last year's recruits. It will be necessary to pay strict attention to these drills to pass the inspection. Dates of Drills, &c., will be issued by 'Express' later on.

By Order,
J. D. ANDERSON, Lieut., R.A.,
Adjutant, Hongkong Volunteers.
Head-Quarters,
Hongkong, 22nd September, 1888. [942]

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS OF THE AUSTIN ARMS HOTEL AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES' ORDINANCES 1865 TO 1886 OF HONGKONG.

CAPITAL.....\$200,000.
Divided into 4,000 Shares of \$50 each, of which 600 are fully paid-up Shares and allotted, 2,400 have been applied for and will be allotted, and the remaining 1,000 are offered to the Public and are payable as follows,
viz.,

\$10 on application, \$10 on allotment, \$5 on the 31st December, 1888, and the remaining \$25 when and as the same shall from time to time be called up under the provisions contained in the Articles of Association of the Company.

DIRECTORS:
J. D. HUMPHREYS, ESQ.
D. NOWROJEE, ESQ.
E. C. L. REUTER, ESQ.
A. FINDLAY SMITH, ESQ.
E. L. WOODIN, ESQ.

BANKERS:
THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

ARCHITECTS:
MESSRS. DANDY & LEIGH.

SOLICITORS:
MESSRS. WOTTON & DEACON.

THE COMPANY has been formed for the purpose of purchasing from the Vendors, the site of the AUSTIN ARMS at VICTORIA PEAK, Hongkong, Farm Lot No. 54, for the sum of \$25,000 (of which the Vendors agreed to take \$10,000 in fully paid-up Shares in the Company) and erecting thereon and keeping a large FIRST-CLASS RESIDENTIAL HOTEL, and also of purchasing from the Vendor, certain other pieces of ground at the Peak, registered as the remaining portion of Rural Building Lot No. 18 and Rural Building Lot No. 60, for the sum of \$30,000 (of which the Vendor agreed to take \$10,000 in fully paid-up Shares of the Company) and erecting thereon and letting a terrace of 11 Houses.

The Share Capital required for the above objects is \$200,000, to be raised by the issue of 4,000 shares of \$50 each, of which 600 shares, fully paid up, will be allotted and issued to the Vendors in pursuance of an Agreement dated the 18th September, 1888, hereinafter mentioned, by which the Vendors agreed to sell the said Farm Lot No. 54 to the Company at the price of \$50,000, and to accept payment of \$20,000 portion thereof in 400 fully paid-up shares of the Company, an agreement dated the 18th September, 1888, hereinafter mentioned, by which the Vendor agreed to sell the said Remaining Portion of Rural Building Lot No. 18 and Rural Building Lot No. 60 to the Company at the price of \$50,000 and to accept payment of \$10,000 portion thereof in 200 fully paid-up shares of the Company. A further 2,400 shares have been applied for and will be allotted, and the remaining 1,000 shares are offered to the Public and will be allotted and issued as the Directors of the Company shall determine and shall be paid for as follows:—\$10 on application, \$10 on allotment, \$5 on 31st December, 1888, and the remaining \$25 when and as the same shall from time to time be called up under the provisions of the Articles of the Company.

The site of the "AUSTIN ARMS" contains 8,546 superficial square feet and is within 5 minutes walk of the Terminus of the Peak Tramway.

The Hotel proposed to be erected will contain upwards of 50 Rooms, including a large Public Dining Hall, Private Dining Room, Smoking Room, Morning Room, Billiard and Drawing Rooms and Bar, and Bed Rooms, and will occupy half only of Farm Lot No. 54, thus leaving the other half for future extension.

The terrace proposed to be erected on the Remaining Portion of Rural Building Lot No. 18 and Rural Building Lot No. 60, the site of which will be levelled and prepared ready for building by and at the expense of the Vendor, will command a view, on the North Side, of the Harbour of Hongkong, and on the South Side, of Pokfulam, and will consist of 2 houses of six rooms each and 9 houses of 5 rooms each, with suitable out-offices. The site contains an area of 8,447 superficial square feet and is within minutes walk of the Terminus of the Peak Tramway, and the houses can be let at such moderate rents as to readily secure tenants.

The architects of the Company estimate that the Hotel can be built and completely furnished at the cost of \$80,000, and the 11 terrace houses can be built and finished ready for occupation for the further sum of \$80,000.

An arrangement has been made with Mr. DORABJE NOWROJEE for the management of the Hotel.

Two agreements only have been entered into and are respectively dated the 18th day of September, 1888.

Copies of these Agreements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and the prospectus, can all be seen at the office of Messrs WOTTON & DEACON, the Solicitors of the Company, at 35, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

Applications for shares, which will be received until the 6th October next, must be made on a form which can be obtained at 35, Queen's Road, Hongkong, or the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and must be forwarded to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the amount payable on application must be deposited with them. If no allotment is made the deposit will be returned, without any deduction, but without any interest, and where the number of shares allotted is less than the number applied for, the surplus will be credited in reduction of the amount payable on allotment, and any excess returned.

Hongkong, 21st September, 1888. [938]

Auctions.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION, No. 410.

THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held on the spot, on

WEDNESDAY,

the 26th day of September, 1888, at 2 P.M., are published for general information.

By Command,
FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 15th September, 1888. [935]

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on WEDNESDAY, the 26th day of September, 1888, at 2 P.M., by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of Forty-three Lots of CROWN LAND, at Mongkok, Kaulung, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 Years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.

No. of Registry	Locality	Boundary Measurements	Contents in Square Feet	Annual Rent	Upset Price
No. of Sale	Locality	N. S. E. W.			
Inland Lots					
1 No. 444	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
2 " 445	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
3 " 446	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
4 " 447	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
5 " 448	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
6 " 449	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
7 " 450	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
8 " 451	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
9 " 452	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
10 " 453	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
11 " 454	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
12 " 455	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
13 " 456	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
14 " 457	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
15 " 458	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
16 " 459	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
17 " 460	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
18 " 461	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
19 " 462	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
20 " 463	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
21 " 464	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
22 " 465	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
23 " 466	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
24 " 467	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500
25 " 468	Do.	70 70 15 15	10,000	140	1,500

